

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A promotion method by which point information related to predetermined points is shown to a user when a commodity is sold, the user sends the shown point information together with identification information of the user to a center unit, and the center unit stores and manages points corresponding to the sent point information in connection with the user and provides a predetermined service corresponding to the managed points to the user, wherein:

system information about a distributor of the commodity is added to the point information, and

the center unit separately manages the service provided to the user according to the system information added to the received point information in correspondence with the distributor of the commodity.

2. The promotion method according to claim 1, wherein the system information is added to the point information when the commodity is sold.

3. The promotion method according to claim 1, wherein:

the point information is sent to the center unit through a unique system terminal disposed at the distributor of the commodity, and

the system information is added to the point information by the system terminal.

4. The promotion method according to claim 1, wherein:

the point information includes at least one of a commodity code unique to the commodity, date information when the commodity is sold, price information of the commodity and an area code related to a place where a machine having sold the commodity is installed; and

the center unit collectively changes the service to be provided to the user

according to at least one of a kind of commodity, a date when the commodity is sold, a price of the commodity and a place where the machine having sold the commodity is installed.

5. The promotion method according to claim 4, wherein:

the commodity is sold by an automatic vending machine, and

the commodity code is added to the point information in correspondence with the number of a column in which the commodity is stored.

6. The promotion method according to claim 4, wherein the commodity code is added to the point information in correspondence with a serial number indicated on the commodity.

7. The promotion method according to claim 4, wherein the commodity code is added to the point information according to information of a bar code related to and indicated on the commodity.

8. A promotion system by which point information related to predetermined points is shown to a user when a commodity is sold, the user sends the shown point information together with identification information of the user to a center unit, and the center unit stores and manages points corresponding to the sent point information in connection with the user and provides a predetermined service corresponding to the managed points to the user, wherein the promotion system comprises:

point information issuing means for issuing point information to which system information about a distributor of the commodity is added when the commodity is sold, and

system-specific management means which is mounted on the center unit and separately manages in association with the distributor of the commodity the service

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provided to the user according to the system information added to the point information.

9. The promotion system according to claim 8, wherein:

the point information includes at least one of a commodity code unique to the commodity, date information when the commodity is sold, price information of the commodity and an area code related to a place where a machine having sold the commodity is installed; and

the center unit collectively changes the service to be provided to the user according to at least one of a kind of commodity, a date when the commodity is sold, a price of the commodity and a place where the machine having sold the commodity is installed.

10. A promotion system by which point information related to predetermined points is shown to a user when a commodity is sold, the user sends the shown point information together with identification information of the user to a center unit, and the center unit stores and manages points corresponding to the sent point information in connection with the user and provides a predetermined service corresponding to the managed points to the user, wherein the promotion system comprises:

point information issuing means for issuing the point information when the commodity is sold;

a system terminal which is disposed in association with the distributor of the commodity and sends system information about the distributor of the commodity added to the point information to the center unit; and

system-specific management means which are mounted on the center unit and separately manage the service provided to the user according to the system information added to the point information in association with the promotion system corresponding to the distributor of the commodity.

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11. The promotion system according to claim 10, wherein:

the point information includes at least one of a commodity code unique to the commodity, date information when the commodity is sold, price information of the commodity and an area code related to a place where a machine having sold the commodity is installed; and

the center unit collectively changes the service to be provided to the user according to at least one of a kind of commodity, a date when the commodity is sold, a price of the commodity and a place where the machine having sold the commodity is installed.